The following is a description of the rights granted by Federal Law to individuals with disabilities. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions. These rights are available upon request to parents/guardians and are available on the District website www.collierschools.com

You have the right to:

• Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disabling condition(s).
• Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
• Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child.
• Have your child receive a free and appropriate public education.
• Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to non-disabled individuals.
• Have evaluation, education, and placement decisions made, based on a variety of information sources and by individuals who know the individual and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
• Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is a program not operated by the District) at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the individual was placed in a program operated by the District.
• Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities offered by the District.
• Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child’s identification, evaluation, and placement.
• Request mediation, file a complaint pursuant to the Florida Administrative Procedure Act (F.S. Chapter 120), or request an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child’s identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and your child may take part in the hearing and be represented by counsel. Hearing requests must be made in writing to Dr. Dena Landry, Coordinator of Psychological Services/Section 504, as identified below. You may also elect to contact the Office for Civil Rights at any time. These complaint resolution activities are voluntary, separate, and distinct in addition parents/guardians may also exercise any other rights available under School Board Policy 9130 (http://www.neola.com/collier-fl/).
• Parent/guardians may request a review of the due process hearing officer’s decision by the full School Board. The School Board cannot reject or modify the findings of fact made in the recommended order of the ALJ unless it determines that the findings have no bases in fact or that the proceedings on which the findings were based did not comply with essential requirements of law. Any party aggrieved by the findings and decision in the hearing may obtain review by bringing a civil action in any State court of competent jurisdiction or in a District Court of the United States.
• If the relief being sought under Section 504/Title II is also available under the IDEA, then the hearing will be processed under IDEA procedures to enable a U.S. District Court to have jurisdiction to review the claim in accordance with federal law.